



# The Herald's Military and Navy Men's Page

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Military and Navy Men, Watch for This Page in The Herald Every Saturday



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**Increase of Balloon Corps Personnel.**

Owing to the increased demand from the American Expeditionary Forces for balloon crews, the Balloon Corps of the army is to be increased 25,000 men and 1,200 officers. It now numbers approximately 11,000 all ranks. Authority has been obtained by the Air Service from the General Staff to induct men of draft age and to transfer officers from the other branches of the service. This increase will create many vacancies in the grades of colonel, lieutenant-colonel, major, captain and lieutenant. Enlisted men and civilians who apply for officers' examinations will be required to take the cadet course of from three to five months, and training camps for this purpose will be conducted this winter in the South and on the Pacific Coast. The schools already established for this purpose are located at Old Point Comfort, San Antonio and Arcadia, Cal. In addition to the important role played by the balloon in the control of artillery fire, it is now being used with infantry, a caterpillar mount for the winch by which the balloon is controlled having been successfully used on the front. This portable winch makes it possible for balloon companies to even keep up with infantry advances for observation and direction of attack. In addition to the opportunities for immediate promotion, officers who join the balloon service will receive the benefit of flying pay when they actually do the work of observers and make flights in connection with army operations. Flying pay is 25 per cent of the base pay of an officer.

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**ARMY Men, watch for The Herald's Military Page---every Saturday.**

**Special Exhibition for the Kaiser.**

The German high sea fleet being unwilling to come out from its safe shelter at Helgoland and try conclusions with the allied fleet, the German Kaiser on September 25 visited Kiel, according to the Lokal-Anzeiger of Berlin, and witnessed maneuvers in which German submarines attacked a supposed allied convoy. He arrived at the German base accompanied by his brother, Prince Henry, and Admiral Scheer. After he had inspected all types of submarines at the base the Kaiser and his party boarded a vessel which proceeded to sea with other ships in the usual convoy formation. The convoy was surrounded by destroyers and other court vessels, which the submarines attempted to attack. The maneuvers were followed by the Kaiser with the greatest interest. One of the escort ships and several of the vessels in the convoy were the victims of theoretical hits made by the submarines. The German All-Highest talked to several submarine boat commanders, thanked the officers for their co-operation and expressed confidence in further successful work by the German undersea boats. Then the Kaiser and his party, presumably satisfied with the exhibition especially staged for his benefit, returned to Berlin, there only to read dispatches just received by the German admiralty announcing the destruction of several German submarines by allied warships and the safe arrival of another large American convoy at a French port.

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**Substitute for Radium.**

Dr. Richard B. Moore, of the United States Bureau of Mines at Golden, Cal., announced on October 7 that he had discovered a substitute for radium which he has named mesothorium. He stated he would explain his discovery to the American Institute of Mining Engineers, which met in Milwaukee October 10. He expects mesothorium will come into wide use in luminous paints, airplane dials, compasses and gun sights.

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Established 1875---Reliable.

**G. W. MEN PUT IN CLUB HOUSE**

**Student Corps Housed Till Maury Apartments Are Vacated.**

The War Camp Community Service clubhouse for girl war workers, located at Seventeenth and H streets northwest, has temporarily been turned over to George Washington University for the housing of the students' unit of the Students' Army Training Corps.

The housing of the student soldiers in the clubhouse was necessitated by the delay of the War Camp Community Service in vacating the Maury apartment house, which was taken over by the university a month ago. The Community Service had intended vacating the building by October 1, but the temporary conversion of the new office building on Virginia avenue northwest into an influenza hospital has compelled the service to remain in the Maury until the epidemic is over.

The girls' clubhouse accommodates approximately 200 student soldiers. The remaining members of the unit of 600 students will be housed in a newly acquired building between Pennsylvania avenue and Seventeenth and Eighteenth streets northwest.

**University Mess Not Ready.**

The student soldiers are being fed temporarily at the Mothers' Congress soldiers' and sailors' clubhouse in Massachusetts avenue northwest, between Thirteenth and

**MOTOR LICENSES GIVE \$152,816 TO DISTRICT**

Bureau's Report Shows Total Receipts of \$292,430.36.

People of Washington paid \$22,638 for licenses and permits during the fiscal year ended June 30, according to the report of the license bureau.

Of this amount, tags for motor vehicles furnished the greater part, \$122,826, operators' licenses came next with \$105,583.36, and operators' permits brought \$33,629. One hundred and thirty-five dollars was collected for steam engineer licenses.

Motor vehicle tags to the number of 42,828 were issued by the bureau of operators' permits to the number of 17,202 were issued. Forty-five engineer licenses were issued.

The bureau recommends that a provision be made for the prorating of fees for motor vehicle tags according to the date of issue. It is pointed out that under the existing regulations a person must pay for a license for operation a small part of the year. It is suggested that the fees be prorated on the first of April, July and October.

The bureau has on file affidavits and applications for all the shipments of alcoholic liquors into the District by common carrier since November 1, 1917. The report shows that 164 shipments for the sale of alcohol were issued, resulting in the collection of \$1,730.

Swimming is enjoying wide popularity in France. A crowd of 30,000 watched contestants in the recent cross-Pacific race.

**Army and Navy News**

Attention is directed by the War Department to the importance of eliminating the mentally unfit. This elimination should, it was recently pointed out, be made at the time that the registrants are given neuro-psychiatric examinations, but any cases which are subsequently detected must be, the War Department directs, eliminated from organizations promptly. "Careful discrimination between psychiatric and psychological examinations," says the War Department instructions, "must be made; the latter are not considered in deciding on the acceptance or rejection of a registrant or in the discharge of a soldier. Special Regulations No. 65 and Army Regulations, Par. 159, govern and the provisions of the latter are extended to include commanding officers of replacement camps and other camps under the command of general officers. Reports from France indicate that a large number of men suffering from mental disorders have been allowed to go with replacement camps. The necessary corrective measures must be applied in the camps of the United States."

Brig. Gen. Samuel McRoberts, head of the Procurement Division, returned to Washington from a two months' tour of inspection in England and France. Declaring that the British are now being delivered in quantity to the American forces in France, Gen. McRoberts said that the gun has thus far so successfully met the various tests imposed upon it that it is proving to be an all-round practical weapon for actual fighting, and the soldiers are enthusiastic over its performance. Asked concerning his observations of ordnance material captured from the Germans in recent months, he said: "We were particularly interested to find out whether this captured material showed any improvements or change in type. As far as we could learn the trench mortars, machine guns and artillery taken from the enemy in recent operations show nothing in the way of new ideas or striking improvements, nor any particular superiority over the allied arms. On the other hand, it was interesting to note by examination of the captured pieces that the enemy, wherever possible, is using substitutes for the metals other than steel, notably for brass and copper. Where it is essential to use these materials he uses them, but the use of the substitutes elsewhere indicates the necessity he is under of conserving carefully his supply of copper and brass."

Although refraining from discussing the quantities or types of ordnance material which the United States will be called upon to produce in the future, Gen. McRoberts declared that he had brought back with him the knowledge that the needs along this line will be tremendous. During the time he was abroad he visited the ordnance factories in England, and, after inspecting the French and American factories in France, he went over the lines of communication back from the American front to the ports of debarkation. "The operations of the Service of Supply," he said, "are on a tremendous scale. While the work is not as orderly as that of an established institution, and it should not be—it is effective and flexible. Although there is still a great deal to be done, I was gratified by what I saw."

Asked as to his impressions of the morale of the American troops, he said: "Nothing that has been printed as to the favorable impression made by the American soldier in France has been exaggerated. It is truly remarkable. Not only has he won the admiration of the French people, but likewise that of the French and British officers and men. The British and French troops, British and French officers constantly remark on the fact that the American soldier seems not only to have an enthusiasm but a purposeful confidence and idealism that is inspiring. And his unusual ability to affiliate easily with the people and the allied troops has won for him widespread popularity. More than that, he has demonstrated his capacity as a soldier. I crossed going over with a large ship filled to capacity with American soldiers. A British general on board, who had made many trips on transports carrying soldiers to India, Africa and other British colonies, told me that he had never seen such discipline among troops confined to close quarters as that shown by these American troops. The same observation is made among allied officers in France. Ours is on his return trip from France. Gen. McRoberts flew from Paris to London by airplane.

An order affecting mail intended for officers and men of the American Expeditionary Force in Siberia was issued by the Postoffice Department September 21, when it was announced that all mail matter originating in the United States or any of its possessions or places where the domestic mail service is in operation for transport to soldiers and others, including civilians, with the force, and all mail originating with members of the force intended for the United States or any of its possessions, is to be subject to the domestic classification. No mail matter, however, may exceed seven pounds in weight. In addition to the addressee's name and designation of the unit to which he belongs, the words "American Expeditionary Force in Siberia" must be added. The eighth-zone rate of 12 cents for each pound or fraction is chargeable on parcels of fourth class domestic parcel post matter, subject to pound rates and sent to the same destination. Third Assistant Postmaster General Dockery issued a notice to postmasters September 21 that officers in immediate command of detached units of the American Expeditionary Force in Europe are authorized to approve requests for articles desired by the members, belonging to parcels otherwise mailable, addressed to members of the A. E. F. in Europe, may be accepted when the request required to be inclosed therein is approved by the addressee's regimental or higher officer, including a major, or by an officer in command of a detached unit in such a manner as to show that fact as for

example, "Approved, Lieut. John Doe, Post Commander," "Train Commander," or "Battalion Commander," as the case may be.

Gen. Peyton C. March, Chief of Staff, has approved a modified change in overcoats for officers. The new overcoat must be of olive drab and instead of coming from eight to ten inches below the knee may be from one to ten inches below the knee. The old trench coats may still be used as raincoats, but must be without insignia of any kind. The moleskin coats with sheepskin lining, which so many officers wore last winter, may still be used, but only at an encampment or within limits prescribed by a commanding officer.

The fact that an officer temporarily sublets the place of abode he maintains for his dependents and rents a cottage in a summer resort for the same period does not change in any way his right to commutation of quarters, heat and light for the time his dependents occupied the summer cottage if the officer was on "duty in the field."

A stevedore steward in the navy enlisted at Cavite, P. I., and was honorably discharged from the service of Good Hope, and that in view of this fact it appeared to him the officer of the vessel to which the man was attached made an inquiry of the comptroller if the discharged man could be paid travel allowance back to Cavite by way of the United States (New York to San Francisco). In making this inquiry the pay officer pointed out that owing to the submarine menace the usual shortest route from England to the Philippines, via the Mediterranean and the Suez Canal, has been closed to passenger steamers and such ships are now routed by way of the Cape of Good Hope; and that in view of this fact it appeared to him the shortest usually traveled route—"shortest" as travel regulations would be to New York and San Francisco where the enlisted man could take a steamer directly to the Philippines. In reply to this request the comptroller states that travel within the continental limits of the United States is unnecessary for this enlisted man since, in addition to the Cape of Good Hope route, "it appears that a regular line of steam-

**W. S. S. AS CHRISTMAS GIFTS TO BE POPULAR**

Cards of Greeting with Place for Stamps Are on Market.

With Christmas just two months away the District war savings committee, in line with the suggestion that only useful gifts be given, is urging that war savings and thrift stamps be the medium for yuletide remembrance this year. Such a course will not only mean ready compliance with the general thrift campaign, but will also help provide the government with funds for the prosecution of the war.

Anticipating that such a course would prove popular, scores of manufacturers of Christmas greeting cards and folders throughout the country have placed on the market various designs of the character which provide space in which the war stamps may be placed. An appropriately worded verse, combining the sentiments of thrift and friendship, is usually imprinted thereon.

While the war savings plan was not introduced until December of last year, Christmas tokens in many instances took this form, particularly as a substitute for the usual money gifts from employer to employee. The custom thus introduced is expected to prove increasingly popular this year.

**NEW YORK HOTEL ARRIVALS.**

New York, Oct. 25.—The following Washingtonians are registered at local hotels: E. B. Gowin, Park Avenue; C. S. Hart, Richmond; Mrs. P. G. Mandell, Grand; Capt. W. E. McIntyre, Gregorian; Capt. J. M. McKas, Algonquin; J. E. Moorland, Latham; W. B. Reed, Breslin; H. Taylor, Herald Square; R. Brunson, Herald Square; T. F. Cook, Gregorian; Mrs. Larker, Grand; G. L. Lohrer, Hermitage; B. G. Macomber, Herald Square; W. A. Means, Gregorian; Capt. C. E. Smyth, Gregorian; G. F. Whiting, Holland; E. R. Boardman, Latham; G. D. Debb, Breslin; L. W. Evans, Union Square; B. F. Hutchings, Park Avenue; J. S. Sullivan, Aberdeen; J. Whitcomb, Wallick.

Serious coal shortage feared in Spain this winter.

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